THE ROYAL PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

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THE ſcarcity of news, ſince the arrival of the printer in this city. having retarded the publication of THE ROYAL PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE, he flatters himſelf that the reſpectable public, who have long and anxiouſly expected authentic accounts of the operations of the ROYAL ARMY laſt campaign, will give it a cordial reception.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.
EXTRAORDINARY.

WHITEHALL, December 2, 1777.

YESTERDAY morning Major Cuyler, firſt Aid de Camp to General Sir William Howe, arrived from Philadelphia, with diſpatches to Lord George Germaine, of which the following are copies and extracts.

Copy of a letter from General Sir William Howe, to Lord George Germaine, dated Head-Quarters, Germantown, October 10, 1777.

IN my laſt diſpatch of the 30th of Auguſt, I had the honour to adviſe your Lordſhip of the Army having landed on the weſt ſide of Elk River, and of its being afterwards divided into two columns; one under the command of Lord Cornwallis, at the Head of Elk, and the other commanded by Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen, at Cecil Court-houſe: I am therefore to give your Lordſhip an account of the operations from that period, wherein will be included two general actions, in both of which I have the ſatisfaction to premiſe that ſucceſs has attended his Majeſty's arms.

On the 2d of September Major-General Grant, with ſix battalions remaining at the Head of Elk, to preſerve the communication with the fleet, the two columns joined at Pencadder, lying four miles to the eaſtward of Elk, on the road to Chriſtien Bridge. In this day's march the Heſſian and Anſpach Chaſſeurs, and the ſecond battalion of Light-Infantry, who were at the head of Lord Cornwallis's column, fell in with a choſen corps of one thouſand men from the enemy's army, advantageouſly poſted in the woods, which they defeated with the loſs of only two officers wounded, three men killed, and nineteen wounded, when that of the enemy was not leſs than fifty killed, and many more wounded.

On the 6th Major-General Grant, after Captain Duncan, who ſuperintended the naval department, had deſtroyed ſuch veſſels and ſtores as could not be removed from the Head of Elk, joined the army.

The whole marched on the 8th by Newark, and encamped that evening in the townſhip of Hokeſſen, upon the road leading from Newport to Lancaſter, at which firſt place General Waſhington had taken poſt, having his left to Chriſtien creek, and his front covered by Red Clay Creek.

The two armies in this ſituation being only four miles apart, the enemy moved early in the night of the 8th, by the Lancaſter road from Wilmington, and about 10 o'clock next morning croſſed Brandy-wine Creek, at Chad's Ford, taking poſt on the heights on the eaſtern ſide of it.

On the 9th in the afternoon, Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen marched with the army to New Garden and Kennet's Square, while Lord Cornwallis with the right moved to Hockeſſen's meeting-houſe and both joined the next morning at Kennet's Square.

On the 11th at day-break the army advanced in two columns; the right commanded by Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen, conſiſting of four Heſſian battalions, under Major-General Stern, the 1ſt and 2d brigades of Britiſh, three battalions of the 71ſt regiment, the Queen's American Rangers, and one ſquadron of the 16th Dragoons, under Major-General Grant, having with them ſix medium twelve pounders, four howitzers, and the light artillery belonging to the brigades. This column took the direct road to Chad's Ford, ſeven miles diſtant from Kennet's Square, and arrived in front of the enemy about ten o'clock, ſkirmiſhing moſt part of the march with their advanced troops, in which the Queen's Rangers, commanded by Captain Wemyſs, of the 40th regiment, diſtinguiſhed themſelves in a particular manner.

The other column under the command of Lord Cornwallis, Major-General Grey, Brigadier Generals Matthew and Agnew, conſiſting of the mounted and diſmounted Chaſſeurs, two ſquadrons of the 16th Dragoons, two battalions of light infantry, two battalions of Britiſh, and three of Heſſian Grenadiers, two battalions of guards, the 3d and 4th brigades, with four light twelve pounders, and the artillery of the brigades, marched about twelve miles to the Forks of the Brandywine, croſſed the firſt branch at Trumble's Ford, and the ſecond at Jeffery's Ford, about two o'clock in the afternoon, taking from thence the road to Dilworth, in order to turn the enemy's right at Chad's Ford.

General Waſhington, having intelligence of this movement about noon, detached General Sullivan to his right with near ten thouſand men, who took a ſtrong poſition on the commanding ground above Birmingham church, with his left near to the Brandywine, both flanks being covered by very thick woods, and his artillery advantageouſly diſpoſed.

As ſoon as this was obſerved, which was about four o'clock, the King's troops advanced in three columns, and upon approaching the enemy, formed the line, with the right towards the Brandywine; the guards being upon the right, and the Britiſh Grenadiers upon their left, ſupported by the Heſſian grenadiers in a ſecond line: To the left of the center were the two battalions of light infantry, with the Heſſian and Anſpach Chaſſeurs, ſupported by the 4th brigade. The 3d brigade formed the reſerve.

Lord Cornwallis having formed the line, the light infantry and chaſſeurs began the attack; the guards and grenadiers inſtantly advanced from the right, the whole under a heavy fire of artillery and muſketry; but they puſhed on with an impetuoſity not to be ſuſtained by the enemy, who falling back into the woods in their rear, the King's troops entered with them, and purſued cloſely for near two miles.

After this ſucceſs, a part of the enemy's right took a ſecond poſition in a wood, about half a mile from Dilworth, from whence the 2d light infantry and Chaſſeurs ſoon diſlodged them; and from this time they did not rally again in force.

The 1ſt Britiſh grenadiers, the Heſſian grenadiers and guards having in the purſuit got entangled in a very thick wood, were no further engaged during that day.

The 2d light infantry, 2d grenadiers, and 4th brigade moved forward a mile beyond Dilworth, where they attacked a corps of the enemy that had not been before engaged, and were ſtrongly poſted to cover the retreat of their army by the road from Chad's Ford to Cheſter and Wilmington; which corps not being forced until after it was dark, when the troops had undergone much fatigue in a march of ſeventeen miles, beſides what they ſupported ſince the commencement of the attack, the enemy's army eſcaped a total overthrow, that muſt have been the conſequence of an hour's more day-light.

The 3d brigade was not brought into action, but kept in reſerve in the rear of the 4th brigade, it not being known before it was dark how far Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen's attack had ſucceeded; nor was there an opportunity of employing the cavalry.

Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen, as had been previouſly concerted, kept the enemy amuſed in the courſe of the day with cannon, and the appearance of forcing the Ford, without intending to paſs it, until the attack upon the enemy's right ſhould take place; accordingly when it began Major General Grant croſſed the Ford with the 4th and 5th regiments; and the 4th regiment paſſing firſt, forced the enemy from an entrenchment and battery, where three braſs field pieces and a five and a half inch howitzer were taken, that had been placed there to command the Ford. The enemy made little ſtand on that ſide after the work was carried, when the guards appearing on their right flank, the retreat became general; but darkneſs coming on before Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen's corps could reach the heights, there was no further action on that ſide.

From the moſt correct accounts, I conclude the ſtrength of the enemy's army oppoſed to Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen and Lord Cornwallis, was not leſs than fifteen thouſand men, a part of which retired to Cheſter, and remained there that night; but the greater body did not ſtop until they reached Philadelphia. Their loſs was conſiderable in officers killed and wounded; and they had about three hundred men killed, ſix hundred wounded, and near four hundred made priſoners.

The loſs on the ſide of his Majeſty's troops and the ordnance, ammunition and ſtores, taken from the enemy, will appear in the incloſed returns, No. 1 and 2.

The army lay this night on the field of battle, and on the 12th Major-General Grant, with the 1ſt and 2d brigades, marched to Concord. Lord Cornwallis, with the light infantry and Britiſh grenadiers, joined him next day, and proceeded to Aſh Town, within five miles of Cheſter.

On the ſame day (the 13th) the 71ſt regiment was detached to Wilmington, where the enemy had thrown up works, both to the land and to the river, with ſeven pieces of cannon in the latter; but theſe works being evacuated, Major M'Donell took poſſeſſion of the place without oppoſition, and made Mr. M'Kinlay, the new appointed Preſident of the lower counties on Delaware, his priſoner.

On the 14th Lieutenant-Colonel Loos, with the combined battalion of Rhall's brigade, eſcorted the wounded and ſick to Wilmington, whither the battalion of Mirbach was ſent two days afterwards to join him.

The army moved in two columns towards Goſhen, on the 16th, and intelligence being received upon the march, that the enemy was advancing upon the Lancaſter road, and were within five miles of Goſhen, it was immediately determined to puſh forward the two columns and attack them: Lord Cornwallis to take his route by Goſhen meeting-houſe, and Lieutenant-General Knyphauſen by the road to Downing Town.

The two diviſions proceeded on their march, but a moſt violent fall of rain ſetting in, and continuing the whole day and night without intermiſſion, made the intended attack impracticable.

The 1ſt light infantry, at the head of Lord Cornwallis's column, meeting with a part of the enemy's advanced guard, about a mile beyond Goſhen, defeated them, killing twelve and wounding more, without the loſs of a man.

Nearly at the ſame time the Chaſſeurs in front of Lieutenant General Knyphauſen's column, fell in with another party, of which they killed an officer and five men, and took four officers priſoners, with the loſs of three men wounded.

The enemy being thus apprized of the approach of the army marched with the utmoſt precipitation the whole night of the 16th, and got in the morning to the Yellow Springs, having, as is ſince known, all their ſmall ammunition damaged by the exceſſive rain.

In the evening of the 17th, Lord Cornwallis advanced to the Lancaſter road, and took poſt about two miles diſtant from Lieutenant General Knyphauſen.

The army joined in the Lancaſter road at the White-Horſe on the 18th, and marched to Truduffrin, from whence a detachment of light infantry was immediately ſent to the Valley Forge upon Schuylkill, where the enemy had a variety of ſtores, and a conſiderable magazine of flour. The firſt battalion of light infantry and the Britiſh grenadiers took poſt there next day, and were joined on the 20th by the guards.

The enemy croſſed the Schuylkill on the 18th, above French Creek, and encamped upon the river, on each ſide of Perkyomy Creek, having detached troops to all the Fords of Schuylkill, with cannon at Swedes Ford and the Fords below it.

Upon intelligence that General Wayne was lying in the woods with a corps of fifteen hundred men, and four pieces of cannon, about three miles diſtant, and in the rear of the left wing of the army, Major-General Grey was detached on the 20th late at night, with the 2d light infantry, the 42d and 44th regiments, to ſurprize this corps. The moſt effectual precaution being taken by the General to prevent his detachment from firing, he gained the enemy's left about one o'clock; and having, by the bayonet only, forced their out centries and picquets, he ruſhed in upon their encampment, directed by the light of their fires, killed and wounded not leſs than three hundred on the ſpot, taking between ſeventy and eighty priſoners, including ſeveral officers, the greater part of their arms, and eight waggons loaded with baggage and ſtores. Upon the firſt alarm the cannon were carried off, and the darkneſs of the night only ſaved the remainder of the corps. One captain of light infantry and three men were killed in the attack, and four men wounded. Gallantry in the troops, and good conduct in the General, were fully manifeſted upon this critical ſervice.

On the 21ſt the army moved by Valley Forge, and encamped upon the banks of Schuylkill, extending from Fat Land Ford to French Creek. The enemy upon this movement quitted their poſition, and marched towards Pottſgrove in the evening of this day.

On the 22d the grenadiers and light infantry of the guards croſſed over in the afternoon at Fat Land Ford, to take poſt, and the chaſſeurs croſſing ſoon after at Gordon's Ford, oppoſite to the left of the line, took poſt there alſo. The army was put in motion at about eight; the van-guard being led by Lord Cornwallis; and the whole croſſed the river at Fat Land Ford without oppoſition. Major-General Grant, who commanded the rear-guard with the baggage, paſſed the river before two in the afternoon; and the army encamped on the 23d, with its left to the Schuylkill, and the right upon the Monatomy road, having Stony Run in front. The ſecond battalion of light infantry was detached to Swedes Ford, which a ſmall party of the enemy quitted immediately, leaving ſix pieces of iron cannon behind them.

On the 25th the army marched in two columns to Germantown; and Lord Cornwallis, with the Britiſh grenadiers, and two battalions of Heſſian grenadiers, took poſſeſſion of Philadelphia the next morning.

In the evening of the 26th, three batteries for ſix medium twelve pounders and four howitzers were begun at Philadelphia, to act againſt the enemy's ſhipping and craft that might approach the town. Theſe batteries were unfiniſhed on the 27th, when two frigates, a number of gallies, gondolas, and other armed veſſels, came up from Mud-Iſland and attacked the lower battery of two guns and two howitzers. The largeſt frigate, called the Delaware, mounting thirty guns, anchored within five hundred yards of the battery, and the other frigate ſomewhat more diſtant; the gallies, gondolas, and other veſſels taking their reſpective ſtations as they could bring their guns to bear. About ten in the morning they began a heavy cannonade upon the town as well as the battery, but the tide falling, the Delaware grounded; upon which the four battalion guns of the grenadiers being brought to bear upon her to the greateſt advantage, did ſuch execution in a ſhort time, that ſhe ſtruck her colours, and was taken poſſeſſion of by the marine company of grenadiers, commanded by Capt. Averne.

Brigadier General Cleaveland, who attended the batteries in perſon, ſeeing the effect of the battalion guns upon the Delaware, turned the direction of his fire upon the ſmaller frigates and armed veſſels, which forced all of them, excepting a ſchooner that was diſabled and driven on ſhore, to return to their former ſituation, under the protection of the fort, where there were two floating batteries in the manner of hulks, of conſiderable ſtrength, with three ranges of ſunken machines, which they termed chevaux de frize, to obſtruct the paſſage of the river, the loweſt row being three miles below the fort.

The enemy had a redoubt upon the Jerſey ſhore, at a place called Billing's-Point, with heavy guns in it to prevent theſe machines from being weighed up.

Upon the repreſentation of Captain Hammond, commanding his Majeſty's ſhip Roebuck, who was lying off Cheſter with ſome other ſhips of war, that the poſſeſſion of Billing's-Port would give him the lower chevaux de frize, the 10th and 42d regiments were detached on the 29th, under the command of Lieut. Col. Stirling. This detachment croſſing the river next day from Cheſter, took poſſeſſion on the firſt of October of the enemy's works at the Point, which three hundred men poſted there evacuated, after ſpiking the guns and burning the barracks. Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling purſued them about two miles, but to little purpoſe, as they retired with the utmoſt precipitation. Capt. Hammond immediately opened the navigation at that place, by removing a part of the chevaux-de-frize.

On the 3d the regiment of Royal Welſh Fuſileers was detached to Philadelphia, with orders to proceed next day to Cheſter, where they were to be joined by the 10th and 42d regiments, on their return from Jerſey, and to form an eſcort for a convoy of proviſions to the army.

The enemy having received a reinforcement of fifteen hundred men from Peek's-Kill, and one thouſand from Virginia, and preſuming upon the army being much weakened by the detachments to Philadelphia and Jerſey, thought it a favourable time for them to riſque an action. They accordingly marched at ſix o'clock in the evening of the 3d, from their camp near Skippack Creek, about ſixteen miles from Germantown.

This village forms one continued ſtreet for two miles, which the line of encampment, in the poſition the army then occupied, croſſed at right angles near a mile from the head of it, where the 2d battalion of light infantry and the 40th regiment, were poſted.

In this line of encampment Lieutenant General Knyphauſen, Major Generals Stern and Grey, Brigadier General Agnew, with ſeven Britiſh and three Heſſian battalions, the mounted and diſmounted chaſſeurs, were upon the left of the village extending to the Schuylkill, the chaſſeurs being in front.

Major-General Grant, and Brigadier General Matthew, with the corps of guards, ſix battalions of Britiſh, and two ſquadrons of dragoons, were upon the right; the 1ſt battalion of light infantry, and the Queen's American rangers were advanced in the front of this wing.

At three o'clock in the morning of the 4th, the patroles diſcovered the enemy's approach, and upon the communication of this intelligence, the army was immediately ordered under arms.

Soon after the break of day the enemy began their attack upon the 2d light infantry, which they ſuſtained for a conſiderable time, ſupported by the 40th regiment; but at length being overpowered by increaſing numbers, the light infantry and part of the 40th retired into the village, when Lieut. Colonel Muſgrave, with ſix companies of the latter corps, threw himſelf into a large ſtone houſe in the face of the enemy, which, though ſurrounded by a brigade, and attacked by four pieces of cannon, he moſt gallantly defended, until Major General Grey, at the head of three battalions of the 3d brigade, turning his front to the village, and Brigadier General Agnew, who covered Major General Grey's left with the 4th brigade, by a vigorous attack repulſed the enemy that had penetrated into the upper part of the village, which was done with great ſlaughter: The 5th and 55th regiments, from the right, engaging them at the ſame time on the other ſide of the village, compleated the defeat of the enemy in this quarter.

The regiments of Du Corps and Donop being formed to ſupport the left of the 4th brigade, and one battalion of Heſſian grenadiers in the rear of the Chaſſeurs, were not engaged; the precipitate flight of the enemy preventing the two firſt corps from entering into action, and the ſucceſs of the Chaſſeurs, in repelling all efforts againſt them on that ſide, did not call for the ſupport of the latter.

The 1ſt light infantry and pickets of the line in front of the right wing, were engaged ſoon after the attack began upon the head of the village; the pickets were obliged to fall back, but the light infantry being well ſupported by the 4th regiment, ſuſtained the enemy's attack with